

**The Worshipful the Mayor,
Chairman of the Local Authority.**

Sir,

I beg to submit the Report of the Health Department for the year ending 31st December, 1914 :—

During the term four hundred and thirty-seven (437) males and four hundred and twenty-three (423) females were born. One hundred and seventy-seven (177) males and one hundred seventy-one (171) females died. Respecting the deaths, 27·8% represented individuals who had exceeded the span of seventy (70) years; 14% were those of infants; 9·4% died from cancerous diseases; 7·1% were victims of tuberculous diseases; ·5% perished from enteric fever, and ·5% were destroyed by diphtheria.

The health of the residents has been good, as demonstrated by a perusal of the decennial return, and must prove satisfactory to the Local Authority; and the low infantile mortality will encourage the nurse in charge of this particular department to continue her duties till she has arrived at the irreducible minimum.

TABLE COMPARING CERTAIN DEATHS FOR THE DECENNIAL PERIOD.

YEAR.	Gross Number of Deaths.	Tuberculous Diseases.	Cancerous Diseases.	Enteric Fever.	Diphtheria.	Infants.	Ratio: Infants Deaths per 1000 Births.
1905	293	26	25	2	3	63	93
1906	358	35	15	14	—	76	111
1907	328	35	24	2	—	65	115
1908	392	23	31	12	1	74	96
1909	367	22	30	13	3	77	91
1910	493	26	32	10	2	101	112
1911	393	26	28	5	5	82	135
1912	370	33	31	2	3	57	96
1913	388	29	40	2	5	66	78
1914	348	25	33	2	2	49	56

The seasons have been mild, and a drought has prevailed; the summer heat was never excessive, and severe frosts were not continuous during the winter: doubtless the weather conditions were favourable, and aided your officers to present such a favourable report.

RETURN RESPECTING THE OCCURRENCE OF DIPHTHERIA.

AREA : 3900 ACRES. POPULATION 24,000, INCLUDING TOWNS OF INVERMAY AND TREVALLYN (INCORPORATED IN THE CITY 1907).

YEAR.	No. of Cases notified.	Attack Rate per 1000 population.	Death Rate per 100 persons attacked.
1908	7	·5	14·
1909	26	1·8	11·
1910	5	·1	40·
1911	38	1·5	13·
1912	127	5·2	2·2
1913	54	2·2	9·2
1914	55	2·2	3·6·

Diphtheria is more frequently reported than in former years, as its identity is easily proved by present day methods. On more than one occasion animals of the feline species, within infected areas, were found to be suffering from co-incident disease; catarrh of the mucous membranes, complete failure of appetite and power of swallowing, ending in coma and death, were the objective symptoms. The cats seemed to have been in contact with and infected by the *Tegenaria domestica*. The white tear-like discharges of the spider were noticeable on the walls of the buildings, and in other places, and might contaminate exposed food. As the commerce of disease is being so closely studied, the question arises whether such an animal can act as a porter for the inter-species carriage of bacilli.

A mild form of scarlet fever made its appearance, but it was not epidemic in character.

A business man was fined for carrying on an illicit offensive trade. A meat vendor was prosecuted for selling meat which had not been inspected, but a conviction could not be secured as the evidence of sale was not conclusive. Fifty (50) cases of selected fillets (fish) were seized and condemned as being unfit for human consumption. Three hundred pounds (300lbs.) of pickled trotters were seized and destroyed. Fifty (50) rabbits and some small quantities of fish were confiscated and removed from various establishments.

The milk, when tested, was found to be up to standard.

The vaccine lymph supplied was innocuous, and some people erroneously believe themselves to be immune.

The proposed Noxious Trades Area has been discussed, but the local and central authorities have agreed to differ in respect to the suitability of two (2) proposed sites.

Attached are the usual returns giving useful information respecting the work of the department.

Obediently yours,

L. GREY THOMPSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

To condemn houses	2	To provide adequate water supply	14
To repair and renovate houses	32	To construct w.c.'s	23
To repair roofs, gutterings, etc.	57	To construct drains and w.c.'s	22
To provide impervious floors	3	To repair privy buildings	60
To repair and asphalt floors of yard	3	To redrain	15
To form and gravel yards	3	To repair waste pipes	165
To cleanse premises	83	To ventilate drains	32
To cleanse and disinfect premises	49	To alter and repair defective gullies	61
To disinfect cabs	23	To provide proper receptacles for garbage	20

[illegible]

DISEASES.				PLACES OF ORIGIN.					
				North Launceston.	South Launceston.	Central Launceston.	East Launceston.	West Launceston.	General Hospital.
Diphtheria	-	-	-	22	9	10	5	6	3
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	5	4	4	2	6	7
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	2	3	1	3	8	—
Puerp. Fever	-	-	-	1	—	1	—	—	—
Pulm. Tubercul.	-	-	-	8	8	6	3	4	1
Chicken Pox	-	-	-	14	4	6	4	1	—
Total 161									

[illegible]

	From 1 to 5 yrs.	5 to 10 "	10 to 15 "	15 to 20 "	20 to 25 "	25 to 30 "	30 to 35 "	35 to 40 "	40 to 45 "	45 to 50 "	50 to 55 "	55 to 60 "	60 to 65 "	65 to 70 "	70 to 75 "	75 to 80 "	80 to 85 "
CANCEROUS DISEASES.																	
MALES, 19 ; FEMALES, 14.																	
Cancer	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	1	3	5	5	4	6	1	2
Sarcoma	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total 33	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.																	
MALES, 6 ; FEMALES, 10.																	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—	1	3	2	1	—	—	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total 16	—	2	1	3	3	1	—	—	2	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
OTHER TUBERCULOUS DISEASES.																	
MALES, 7 ; FEMALES, 6.																	
Various	—	1	—	5	2	—	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Total 13	—	1	—	5	2	—	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—



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[illegible]

PARTICULARS OF DEATHS OF INFANTS.

PARTICULARS OF CERTAIN DEATHS.

	From 1 to 5 yrs.	5 to 10 "	10 to 15 "	15 to 20 "	20 to 25 "	25 to 30 "	30 to 35 "	35 to 40 "	40 to 45 "	45 to 50 "	50 to 55 "	55 to 60 "	60 to 65 "	65 to 70 "	70 to 75 "	75 to 80 "	80 to 85 "
CANCEROUS DISEASES.																	
MALES, 19; FEMALES, 14.																	
Cancer	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	1	3	5	5	4	6	1	2
Sarcoma	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total 33	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.																	
MALES, 6; FEMALES, 10.																	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—	1	3	2	1	—	—	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total 16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
OTHER TUBERCULOUS DISEASES.																	
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Various	—	1	—	5	2	—	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Total 13	—	1	—	5	2	—	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—

